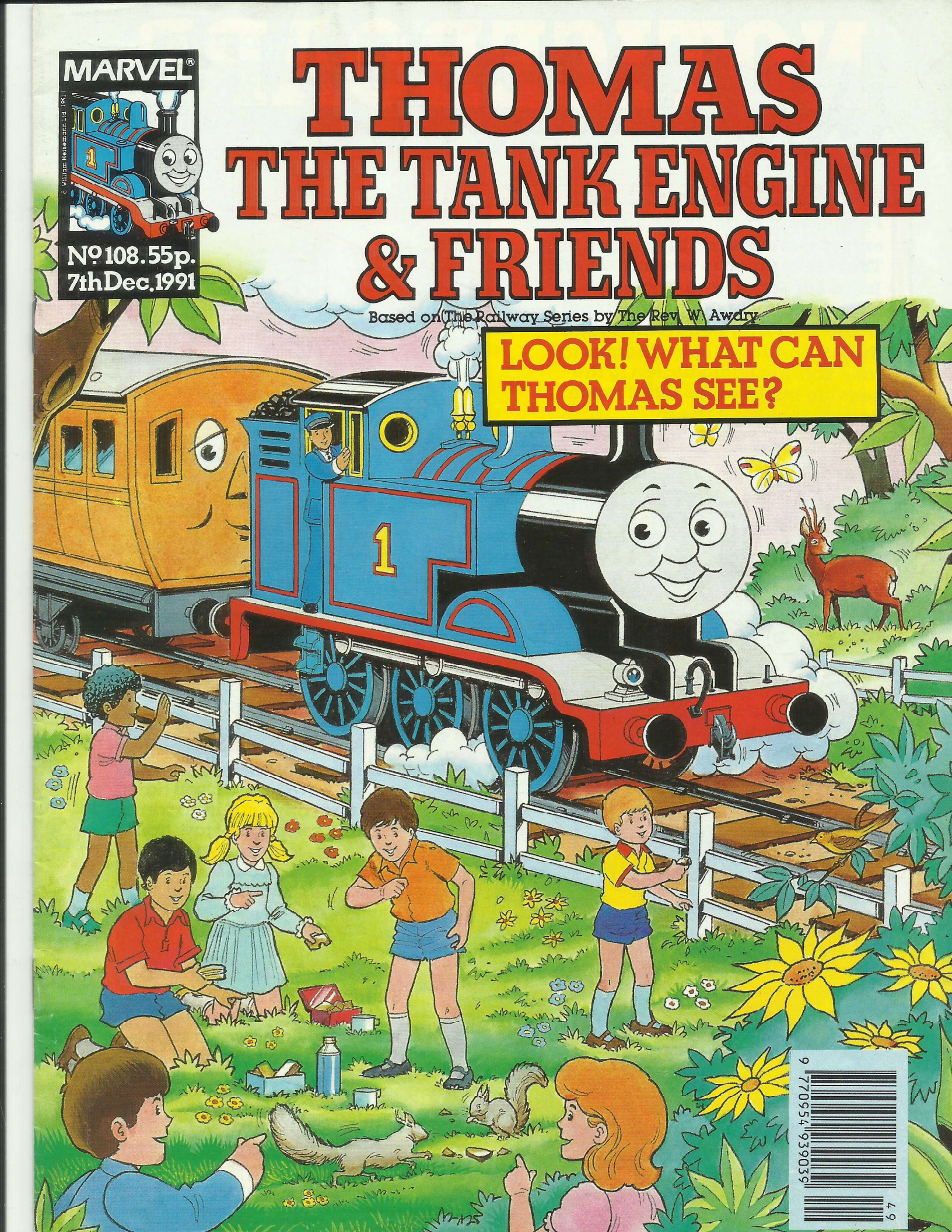
MARVEL
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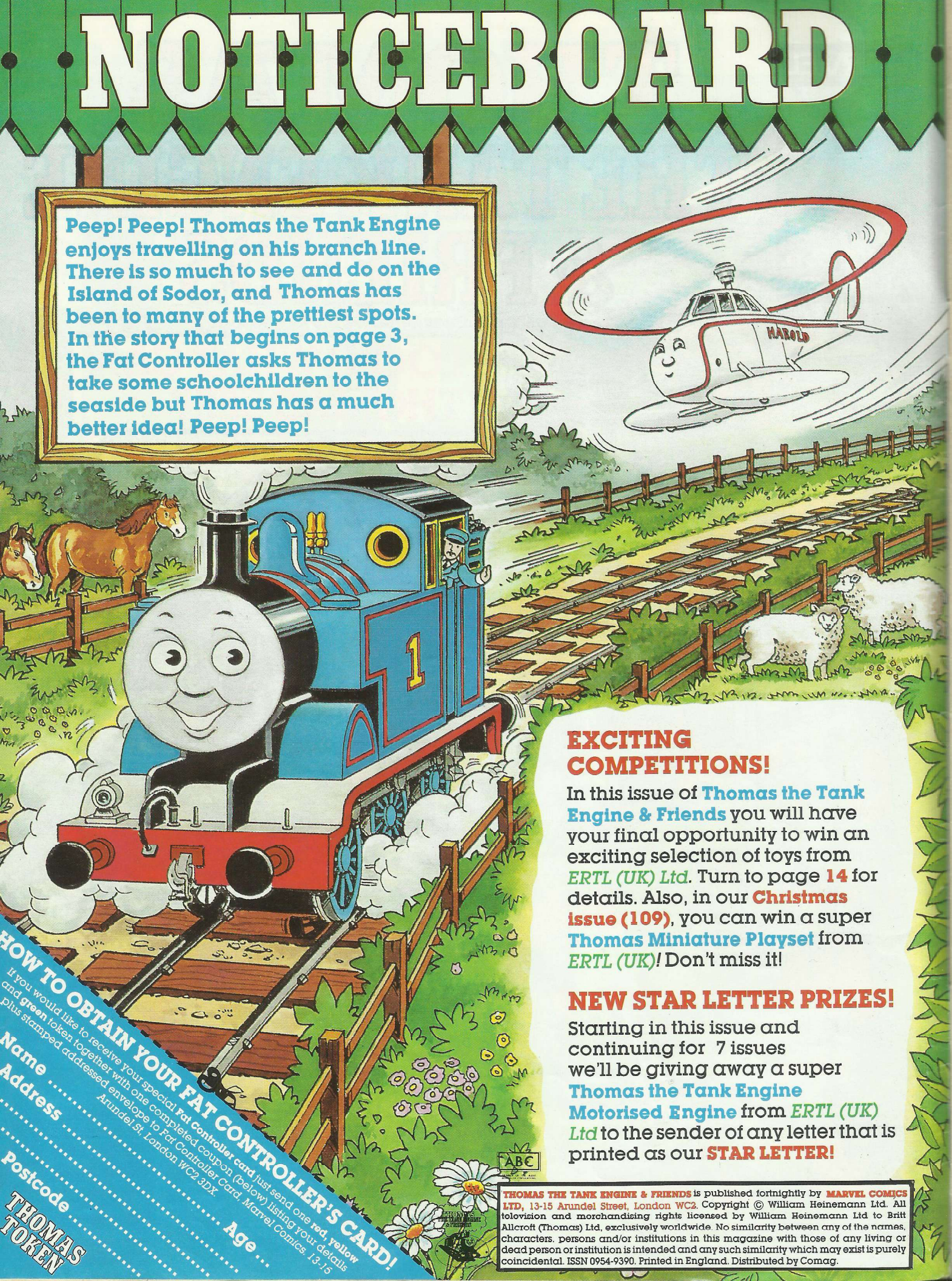
No 108. 55p.
7th Dec. 1991
THOMAS
THE TANK ENGINE
& FRIENDS
Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry
LOOK! WHAT CAN THOMAS SEE?
1
9 770954 939039 49

NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! Thomas the Tank Engine enjoys travelling on his branch line. There is so much to see and do on the Island of Sodor, and Thomas has been to many of the prettiest spots. In the story that begins on page 3, the Fat Controller asks Thomas to take some schoolchildren to the seaside but Thomas has a much better idea! Peep! Peep!



EXCITING COMPETITIONS!

In this issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** you will have your final opportunity to win an exciting selection of toys from *ERTL (UK) Ltd*. Turn to page **14** for details. Also, in our **Christmas issue (109)**, you can win a super **Thomas Miniature Playset** from *ERTL (UK)*! Don't miss it!

NEW STAR LETTER PRIZES!

Starting in this issue and continuing for 7 issues we'll be giving away a super **Thomas the Tank Engine Motorised Engine** from *ERTL (UK) Ltd* to the sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER!**

HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR FAT CONTROLLER'S CARD!

If you would like to receive your special **Fat Controller card** just send one **red**, **yellow** and **green** token together with one completed coupon (below) listing your details plus stamped addressed envelope to Fat Controller Card, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel St, London WC2 3DX.

Name .....

Address .....

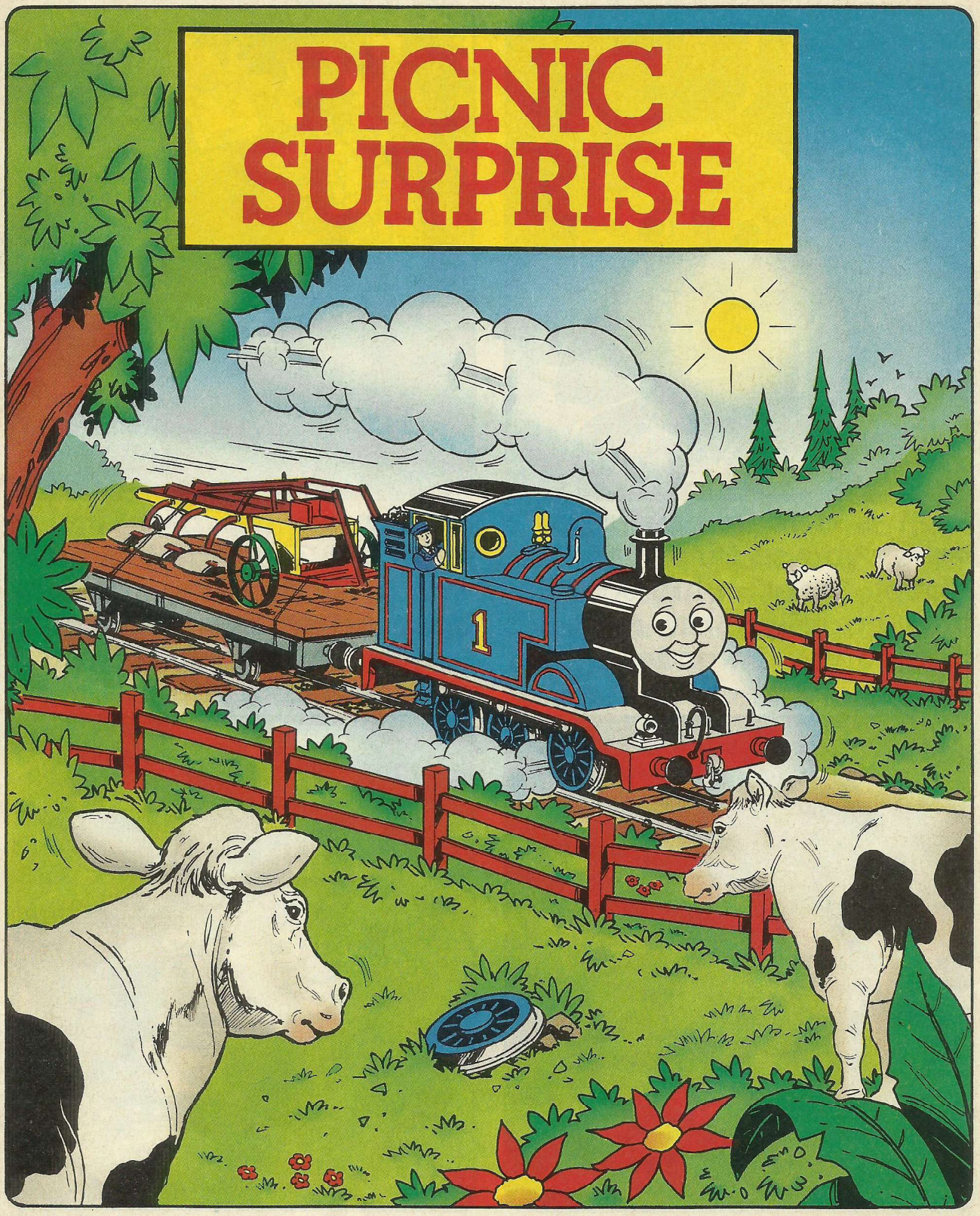
.....

Postcode ..... **Age** ...

THOMAS TOKEN

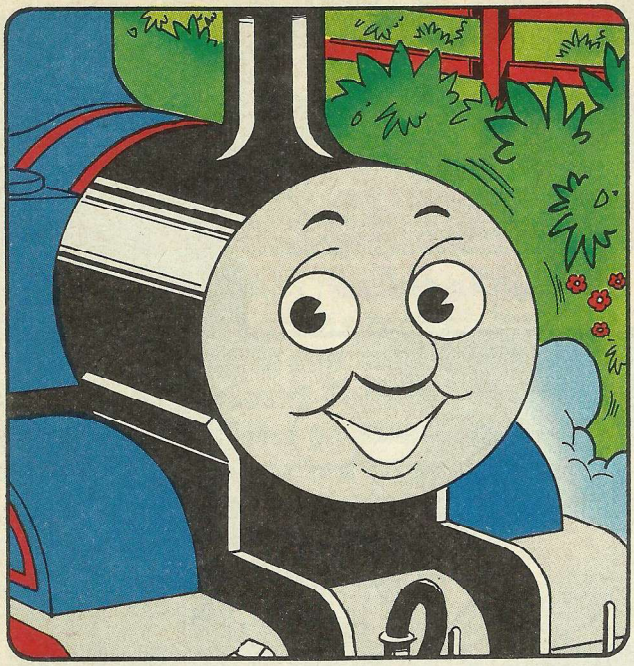
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS is published fortnightly by **MARVEL COMICS LTD**, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2. Copyright © William Heinemann Ltd. All television and merchandising rights licensed by William Heinemann Ltd to Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd, exclusively worldwide. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. ISSN 0954-9390. Printed in England. Distributed by Comag.

A listen and look story!



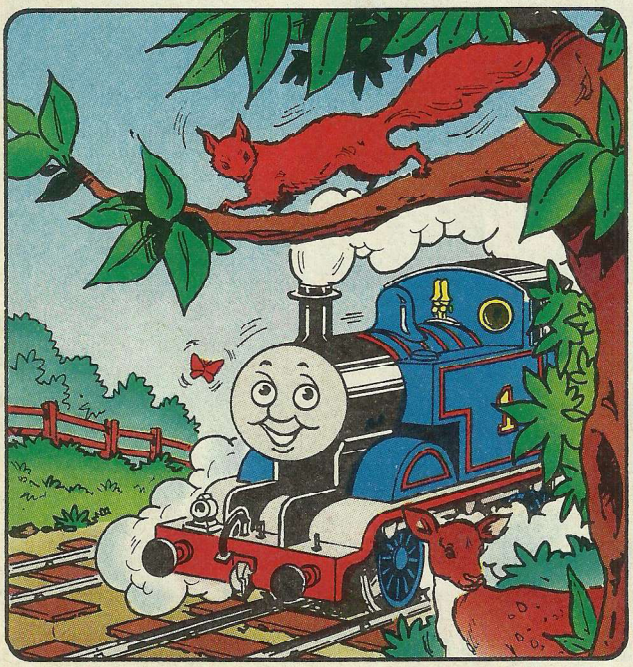
1. "What a lovely day," sang Thomas, as he puffed along, early one morning. The sky was blue and the sun shone brightly. He passed fields full of sheep and cows.

2. Thomas had to go to the very end of the branch line to deliver a new plough to one of the farms. "I do like the countryside," he thought. "It is full of things to look at!"

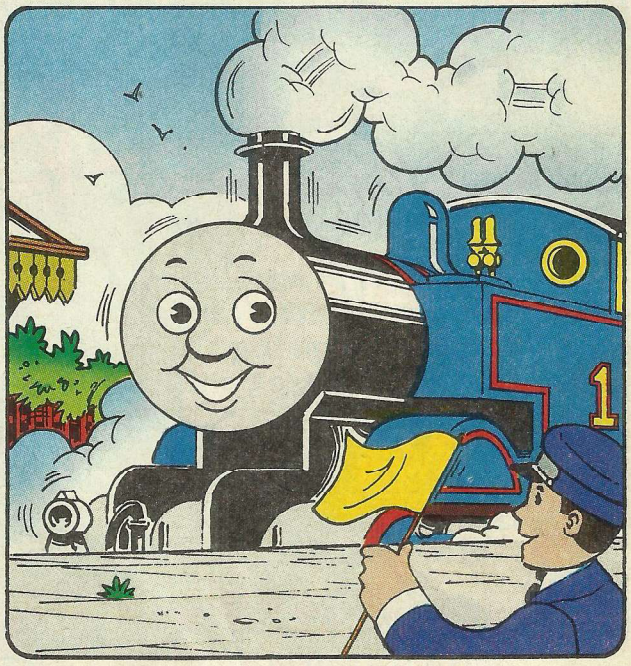


3. "It is a long time since I have come so far up the line. "Peep! Peep!" whistled Thomas, happily. "I am enjoying this journey. I wonder what I will see next?"

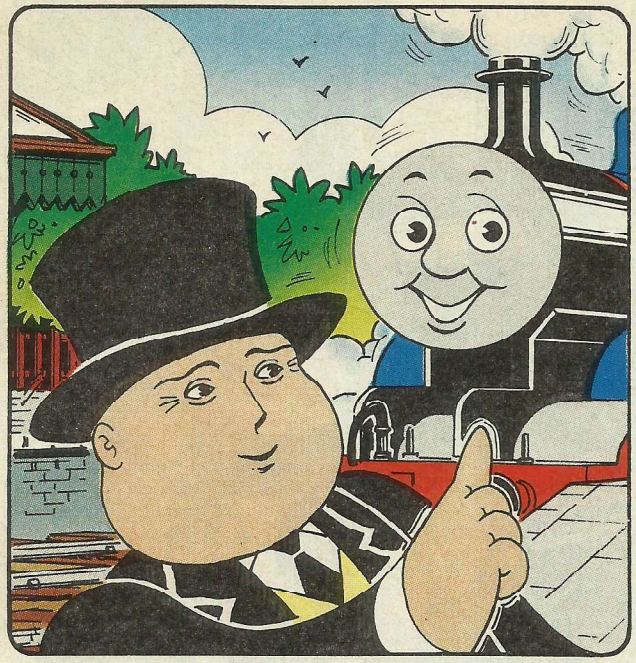
4. Thomas climbed up a steep hill. Near the top there was a small wood. Thomas approached slowly. He could see lots of flowers growing and there were animals, too!



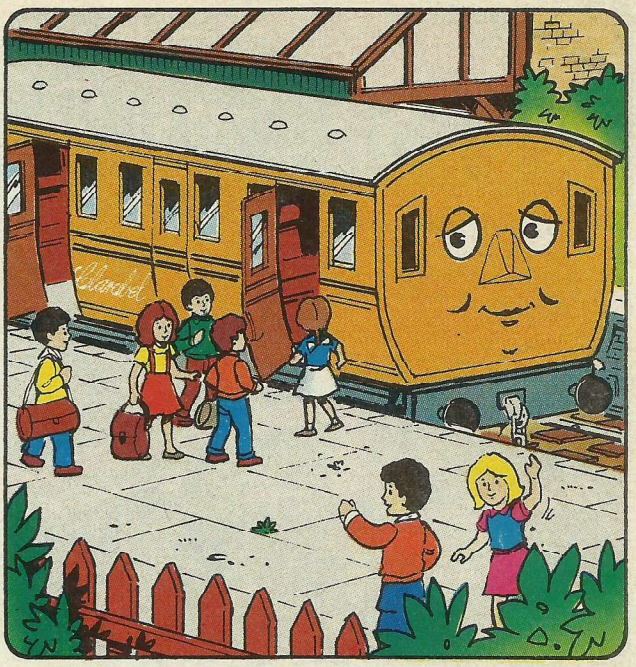
5. Thomas tried not to puff noisily. He did not want to startle the birds or spoil the peace. He saw a deer grazing on the grass and a pretty butterfly flew past his nose.



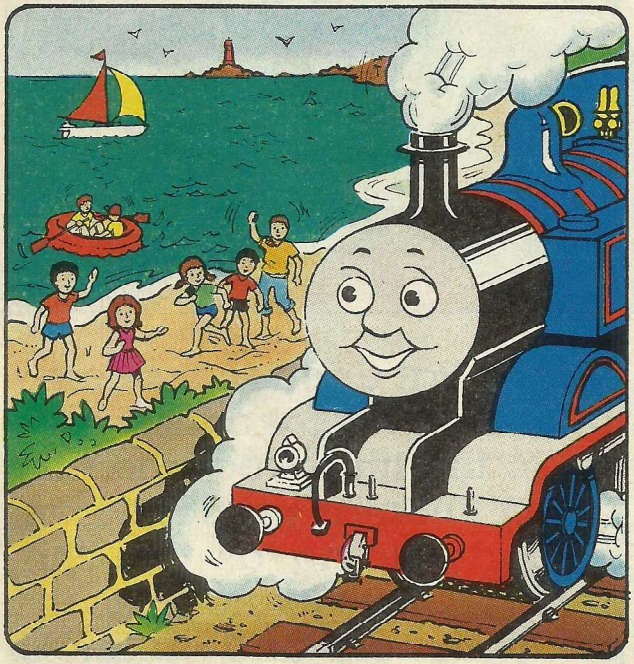
6. "What a beautiful place," said Thomas's driver. "I would love to come here again!" As Thomas puffed past they were sad to leave the lovely wood behind.



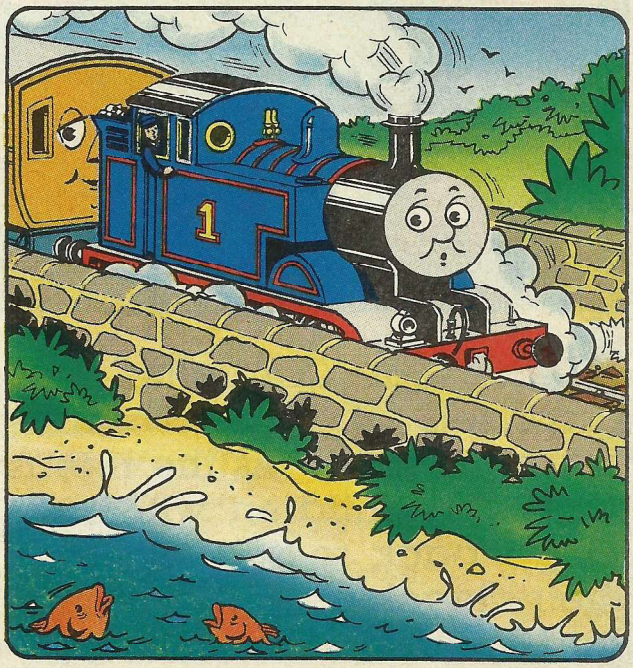
7. The Fat Controller was waiting at the Main Station. "I've a surprise for you, Thomas," he said. "You are to take some schoolchildren for a picnic at the seaside!"



8. Thomas was soon ready to set off. He pulled into the station by the school with Annie and Clarabel. The children were excited and scrambled aboard.



9. Each child had brought a picnic to eat on the beach. As Thomas reached the seaside, he saw that the beach was very crowded with holidaymakers.



10. But it was high tide and most of the beach was covered by water. There was no room for the children to play! Thomas had to return to the Main Station.

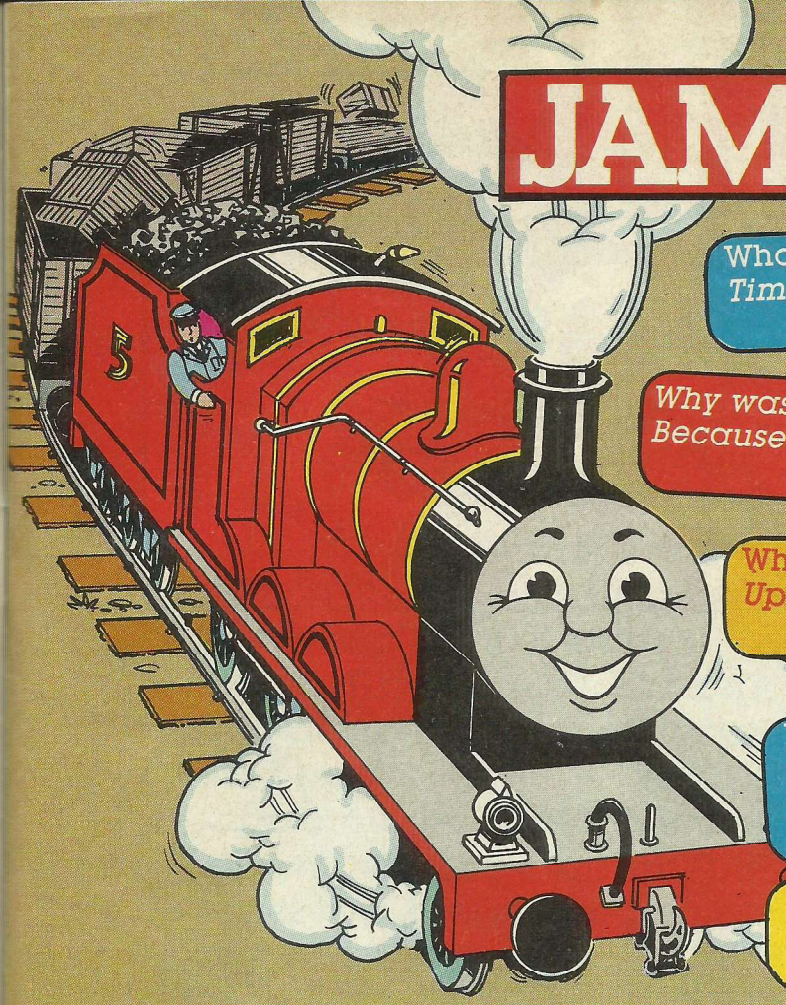
11. The Fat Controller was surprised to see Thomas return so soon. "As the tide is high, the children will have to go back to school!" said their teacher. But Thomas had an idea. "Excuse me, sir," he said to the Fat Controller. "I have just remembered a lovely spot for a picnic. We found it this morning, near the end of my branch line."

12. The Fat Controller agreed to let Thomas take the children to the little wood he had found. Thomas watched from a shady siding as the children drew pictures of the pretty flowers and animals. When they had finished drawing, they played games. When it was time to go home all the children thanked Thomas for his good idea.

THE END

In our next issue: Important engines!

JAMES'S JAPES



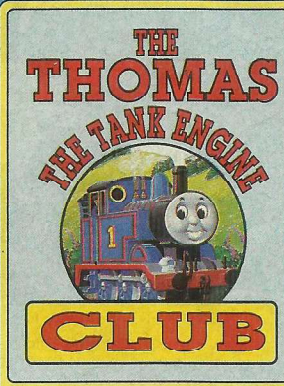
What time is it when you meet a crocodile?
Time to run!
Michael, aged 6.

Why was Cinderella no good at football?
Because her coach was a pumpkin!
Philip, aged 7.

Where does a general keep his armies?
Up his sleevies!
Daniel, aged 4.

Why did the football manager flood the pitch?
So he could bring on the sub!
Trevor, aged 8.

What flies and wobbles?
A jellycopter!
Lisa, aged 4.



THE THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE CLUB

.....an ideal Christmas present!

This brand new Club for all Thomas fans is full of fun, education, news and entertainment all year round.
You'll get a splendid membership pack, three more special Club packs mailed to you throughout the year and a lovely birthday card from Thomas and his friends on your birthday.

The membership pack itself contains many exciting items:
***Club Season Ticket *Club Badge *'Thomas Times' Newsletter**
***Stencil Set with Crayons *Large Activity Poster**
***A Sheet of Stickers *Stationmaster's Hat for you to make.**

Thomas and his friends want to keep you in touch with what's happening all year round so that's why you'll get three more Club mailings from them. They will all contain the latest issue of the Thomas Times, which is full of Club news, stories, letters and pictures from members, competitions, puzzles and lots more. Each mailing will also contain special offers and free Thomas Club items.

To be a member of the Thomas Club only costs £8.95 for a full year plus £1 post and packing.
Ask a grown up to help you fill in the application form and send it with a cheque, postal order or credit card details to **Thomas the Tank Engine Club, c/o PO BOX 96, HENLEY-ON-THAMES, OXFORDSHIRE RG9 2PQ.**

To ensure you receive the membership pack before Christmas please return the form below **before** November 22nd.

© Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd 1991

Please enrol me as a member of Thomas' new club

Name _____

Date of Birth: _____ Boy/Girl (delete as appropriate)

Address _____

Town _____

County _____ Postcode _____

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £9.95 sterling, made payable to **'Thomas Club'** or I authorise you to deduct £9.95 sterling from my Visa/Mastercard,(delete as appropriate) VISA

Credit Card no. _____ Expiry Date: _____

Name of cardholder _____
(BLOCK CAPITALS)

Signature of cardholder _____

NB. For applications from outside the UK, Eire and the Channel Islands please add £5 to the above price. Only sterling accepted.

M108/11/91

THE LIGHTHOUSE LIGHT

The sun was setting when Thomas puffed towards the jetty on the Island of Sodor.

"The lighthouse looks very grand," thought Thomas. "What an important job it has sending out its light-beam signals to warn ships away from the sharp rocks and guide them safely into port."

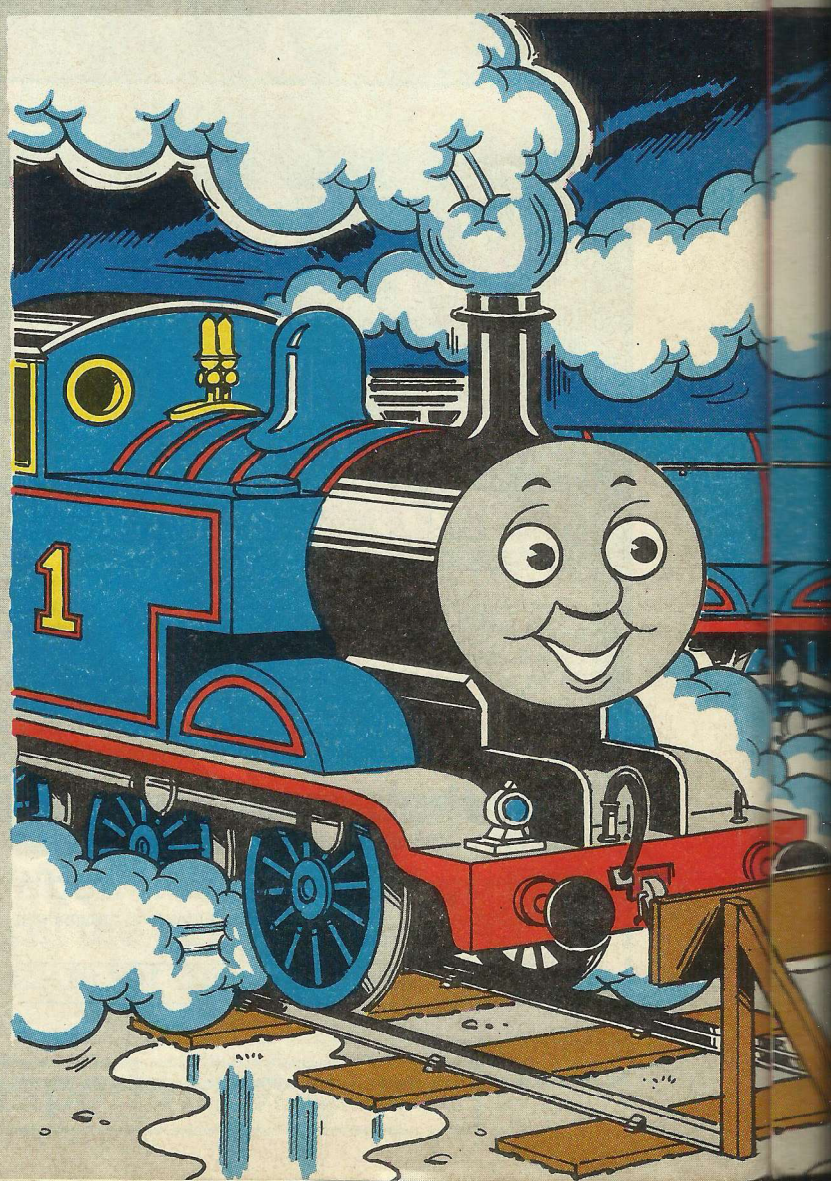
As Thomas approached the tall lighthouse he noticed the Keeper running anxiously towards him.

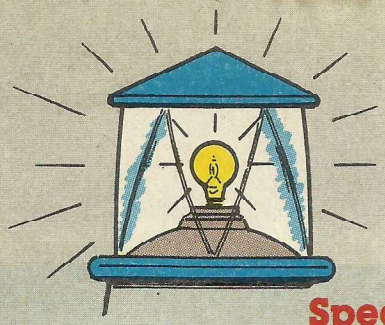
The lighthouse light has gone out," the Keeper told Thomas's driver. "It's nearly dark and I don't know what to do. Could Thomas run over to the big factory to collect a special bulb for the lighthouse?"

"Leave it to me," said Thomas, setting off at top speed. He raced away from the harbour and passed Gordon who was heading for the jetty.

"Whatever's the rush?" asked Gordon.

"No time to talk," called back Thomas, roaring on. Thomas knew it was important to pick up the special bulb and take it to the lighthouse before dark. Without the light's beam it could be dangerous at sea.





Special bulb

Thomas reached the factory in good time. The special bulb was loaded and Thomas rushed back towards the lighthouse as fast as his wheels could carry him.

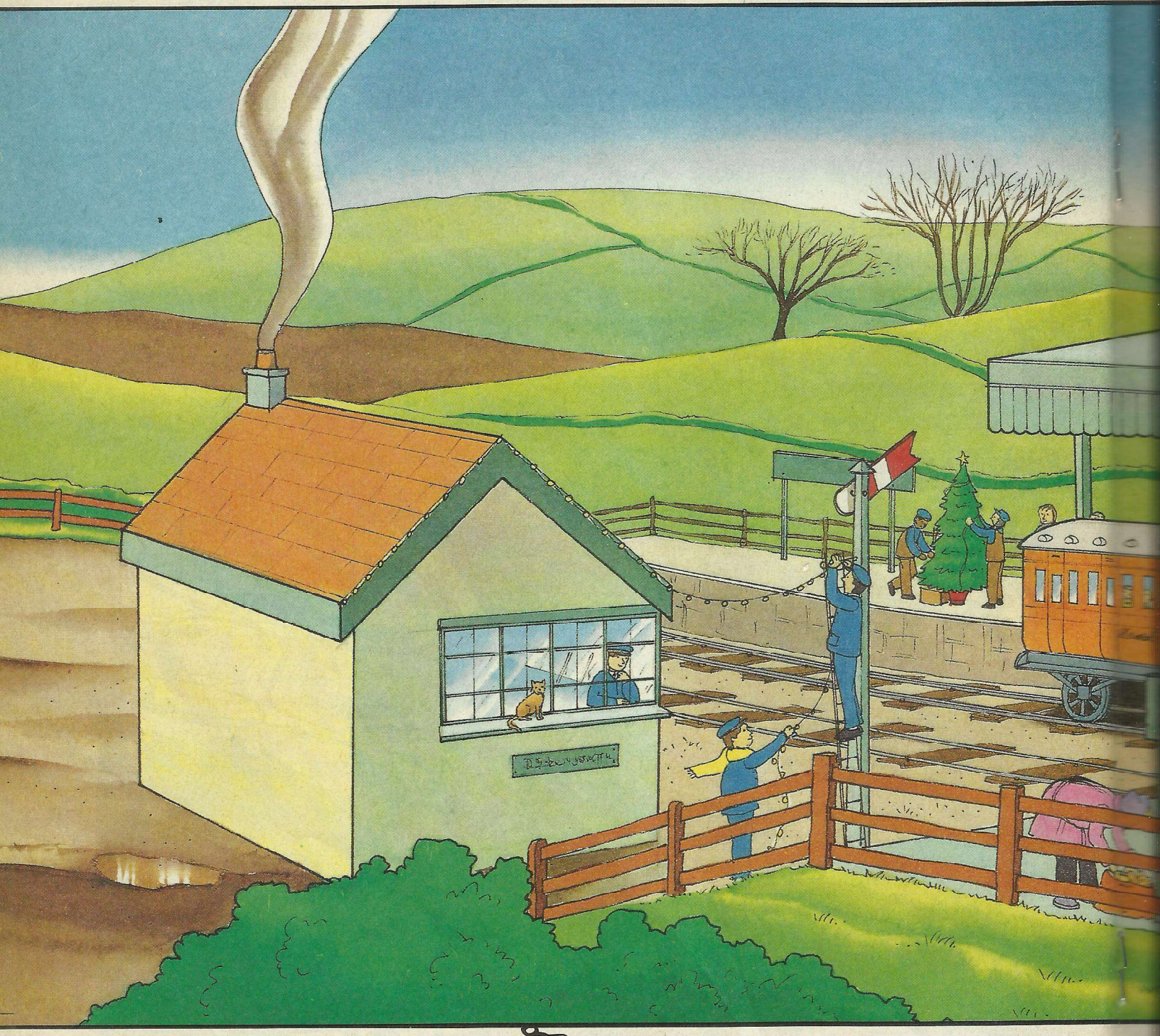
"I'm going to make it," thought Thomas. But then he saw a herd of cows blocking the line ahead. Farmer Davis was trying to lead them from the track.

But by the time Thomas could carry on, it was already dark. Thomas knew he was too late but he rushed all the way back to the coast. And what a happy surprise he got when he neared the jetty to find Gordon standing with all the lights in his carriages burning brightly out to sea while Harold the helicopter hovered high in the air with his search light shining brightly. "We've been guiding the ships away from the coastline," beamed Gordon.

"Thank you, Thomas, Gordon and Harold," said the lighthouse Keeper. "Together you have made the coast safe again."

THE END

Into the sta



Which engine can you see?

Which coaches is he pulling?

Point to the station?

Can you see the passengers?

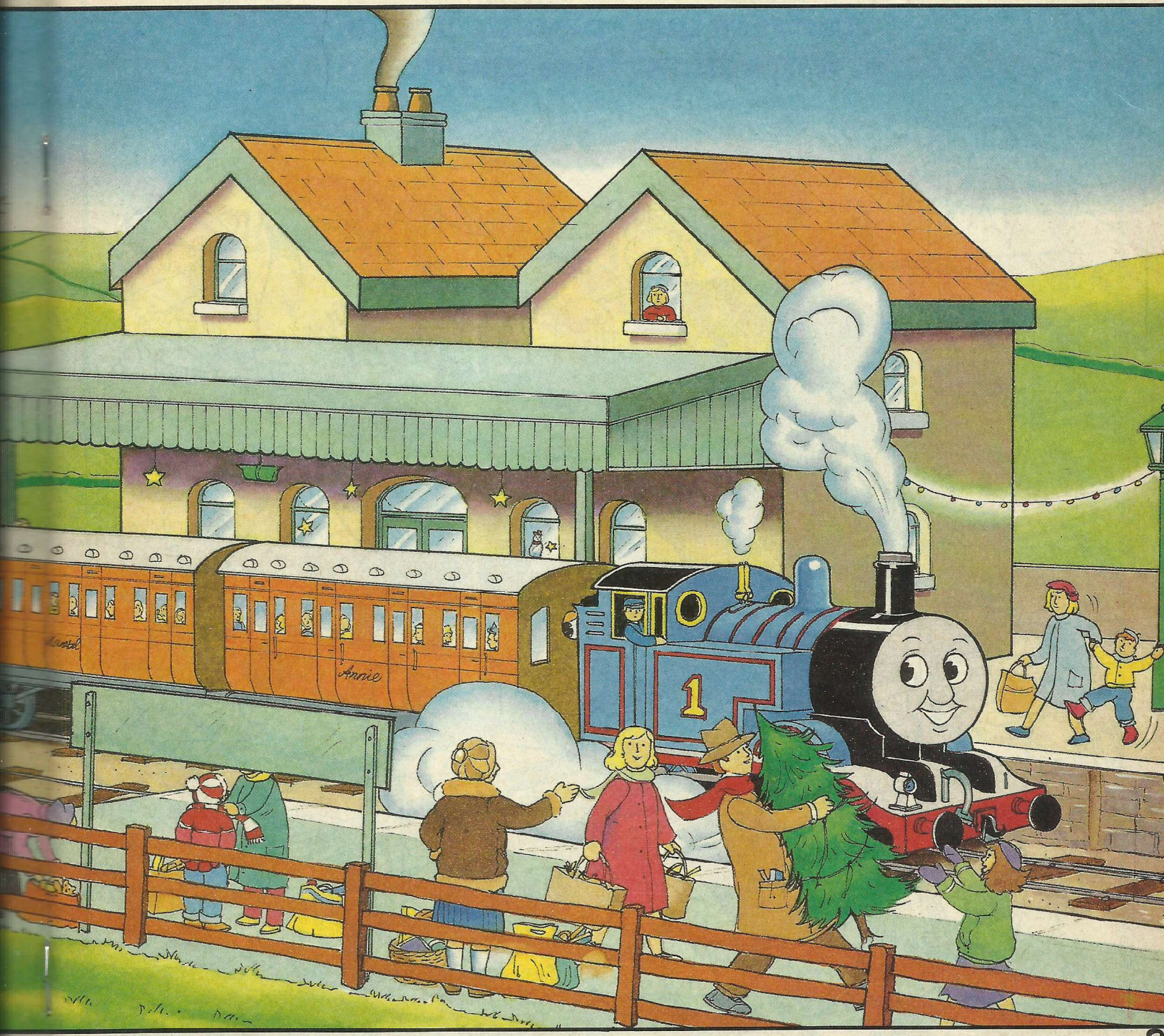
Is the signal up or down?

How many guards are wo

What are they doing?

What time of year do you

ation!



own?

re working by the station?

?

you think it is?

Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

Next issue: It's Christmas day!

COLOURING TIME!

Colour in this splendid scene,
In red, yellow, blue and green!

JOIN THE DOTS!

**Lots of leaves have blown away,
What is George's job today?
Have a guess and use your eyes,
Then join the dots for a little surprise!**

COMPETITION!

SPLENDID PRIZES TO BE WON!

This is your final chance to win a Thomas range of general toys from *ERTL (UK)*.

1ST PRIZE:
24 Thomas the Tank remote control engines to be won!

3RD PRIZE:
48 splendid **Thomas the Tank Engine** diecast models to be won!

2ND PRIZE:
24 smart **Thomas, James and Henry 3-piece** sets to be won!

How to enter:

Simply answer the following six questions set out, writing your answers in the spaces provided. Then send this page to *Thomas/ERTL Quiz, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13-15 Arundel St, London WC2 3DX.*

Name .....**Age** .....
Address.....
.....
.....

Closing date: 18th December 1991.

Questions:

1. What colour is Duck, the Great Western pannier engine?
2. Who is the smallest engine on the Island of Sodor?
3. What are the names of the twin Saddle Tank Engines?
4. What colour is Bertie the Bus?
5. Who lives in the Village Orchard?

Answers:

1. _R___
2. P_____
3. _I__ ___ _E_
4. ___
5. ______

Rules: This competition is open to all readers other than employees and their families of ERTL (UK) Ltd, Britt Allcroft (Thomas) Ltd and Marvel Comics Ltd. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER

Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
My Mummy and Daddy took my sister Kimberley and me on the little Ffestiniog railway, while we were on holiday in Wales. We were in nice little carriages like Annie and Clarabel. Do you have any other girl steam engines on your railway?

Love from **Emma,**
aged 6.

Gracious me! One of the most popular engines on my railway is a female! Her name is Daisy and she is a very modern diesel railcar!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win a splendid **Thomas the Tank motorised engine** from *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*

HOW BRAVE!

Dear Fat Controller,
Earlier this year I had to go into hospital. I was quite frightened and upset, but then a nurse came round and she was wearing a **Thomas the Tank Engine** apron. This made me feel much happier and when I left to go home, the nurse gave me a Thomas certificate saying how brave I had been!

Lots of love from **Callum,**
aged 3.

Gracious me! *You do sound as if you were very brave indeed and fully deserve your certificate! I hope that you've hung it somewhere special in your bedroom, so that everyone can see it!*

SCOTTISH ENGINES!

Dear Fat Controller,
When I went on my holidays in Scotland, my Mummy and Daddy took me on a train! We went to see a big black steam engine. It was really good!

Love from **Jamie Cole.**

Upon my soul! I have two Scottish twin engines called Donald and Douglas and they are also black steam engines too!

BIRTHDAYS

We wish the following readers special greetings. . .

George Medland, Joseph Coltham, Kristopher Musson (36297), Brian Taylor (25127), Karl Ticehurst (35489), Helen Jobson, Alexander Thomas Ross (35238), Emily Boilers (34267), Matthew Thorpe, Jason Richards, Andrew Cooper (33863), Alan Woodhouse (28731), Robert Downs (27849), Simon Deeley, Christopher Turner.

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a postcard or on the back of a sealed envelope at least **9 weeks in advance.** We cannot promise to print all the birthdays, but we will do our very best.

Yours,
Sir Topham Hatt
the Fat Controller.

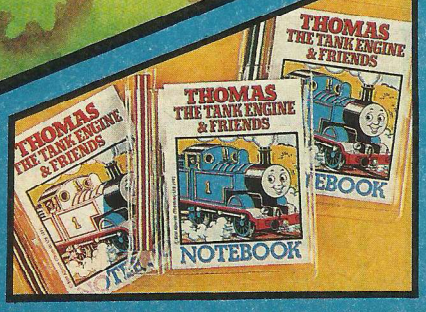
Send your letters to:

The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London WC2.

Subscribe...

...to your child's favourite fortnightly magazine...

It costs just £18.00 for your child to be sent every issue (**26** in all) of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** fortnightly magazine for a whole year! (Overseas subscribers £35.00). Your child will also receive a splendid Thomas the Tank Engine Notebook and pencil (illustrated at the bottom of page) plus Fat Controller's card with personal number, enabling him/her to enter special offers and competitions which are frequently open to Fat Controller's card holders only.



RS1
ORDER FORM

Name .....

Address .....

.....

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Please supply me with **Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends** for a year. I will allow 42 days for delivery.

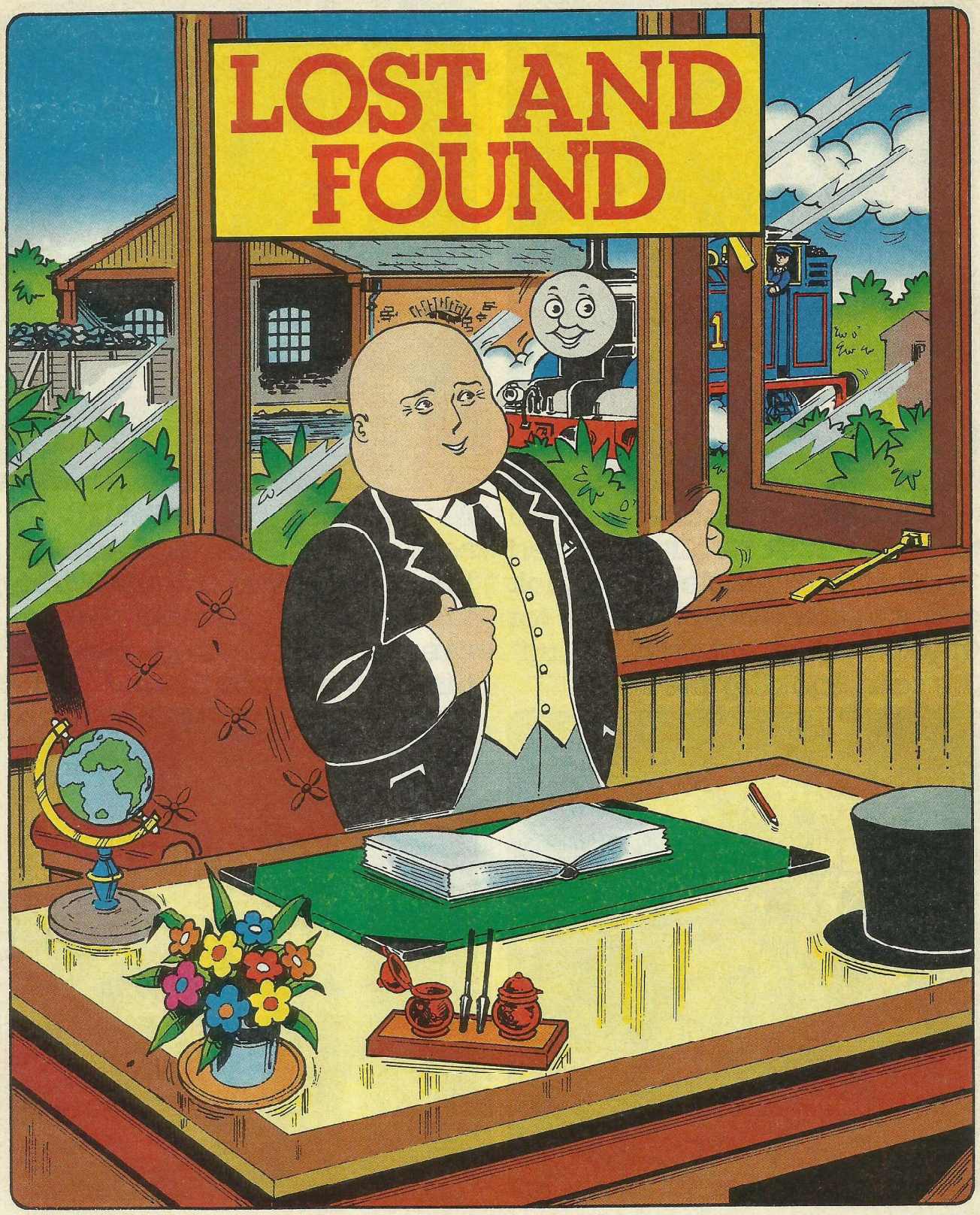
☐ I enclose a cheque/postal order for £18.00 (UK) or £35.00 (overseas) payable to Marvel Comics Ltd.

☐ Please charge £18.00 (UK) or £35.00 (overseas) to my Visa/Master card. My card number is; (13 or 16 digits):

Signature ..... Expiry date .....

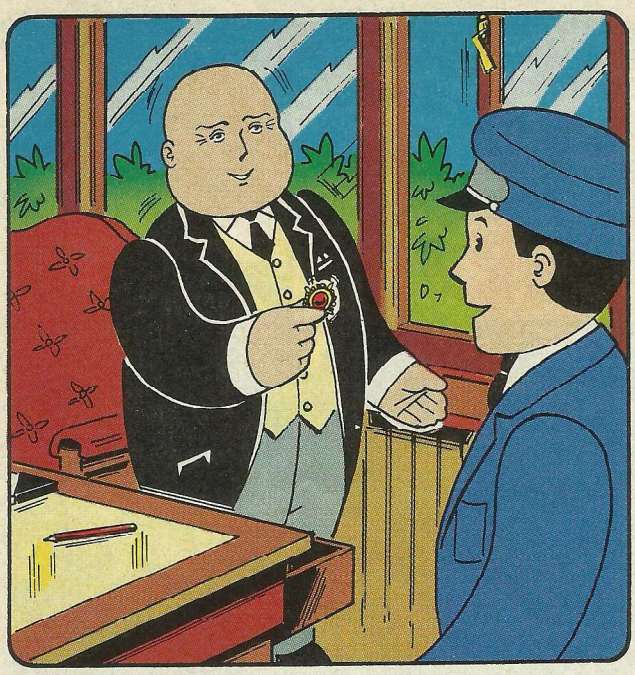
Return form and payment to: *Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 0AB.*

A listen and look story!

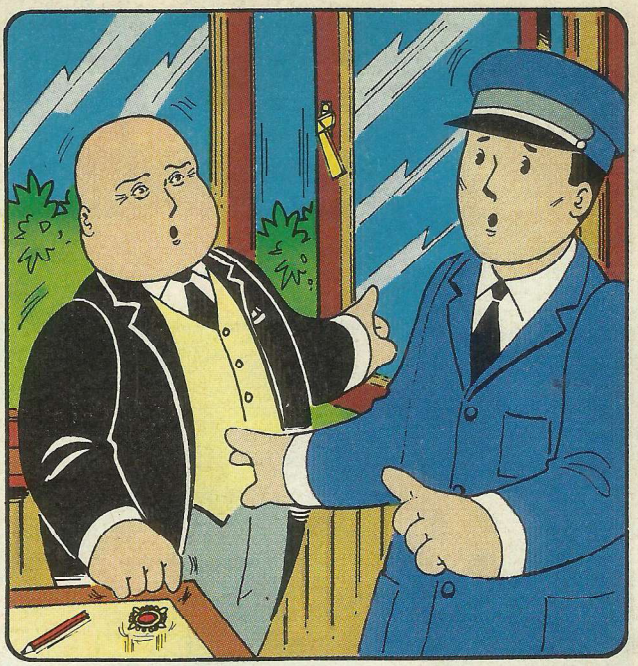


1. The Fat Controller is always busy on his railway. He has a splendid office with a big desk. From his office window he has a fine view of his engines working.

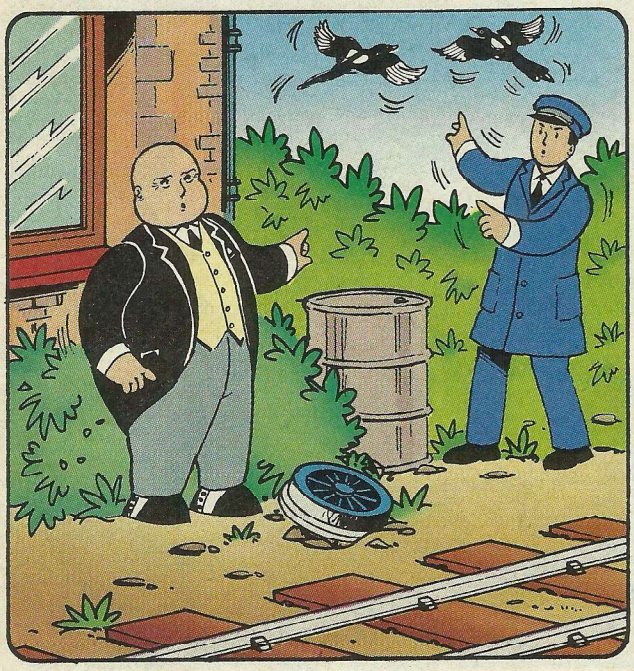
2. One day, it was very warm so the Fat Controller opened a window. He called the Stationmaster into his office. "I want to show you something I've bought," he said.



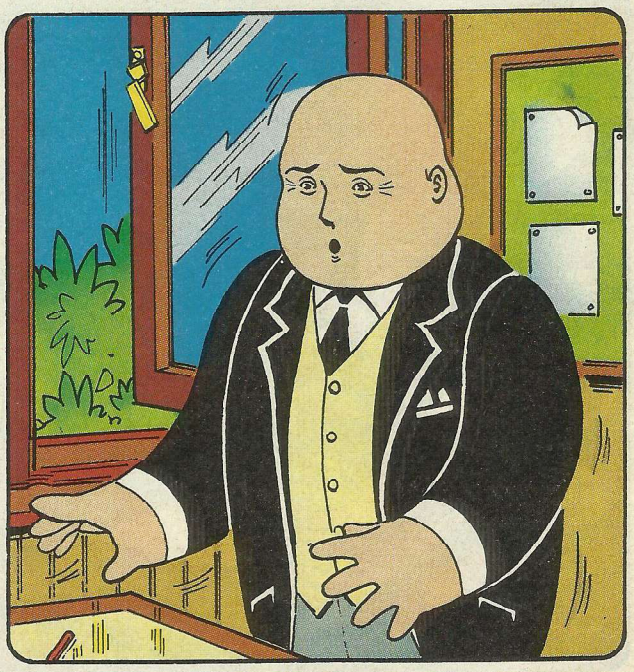
3. The Stationmaster hurried in. The Fat Controller opened a drawer in his desk. He took out a shiny brooch. "It's for my wife, Lady Hatt!" he said, looking pleased.



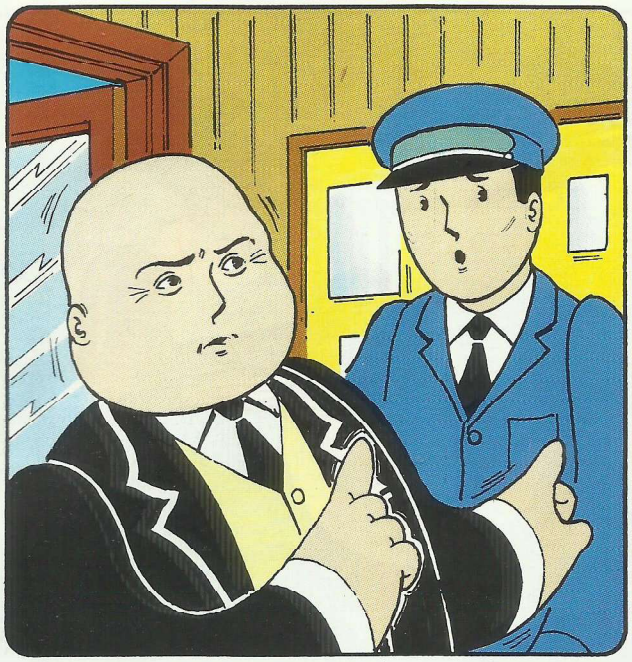
4. "I'm sure she will like it," said the Stationmaster. Just then, there was a loud, chattering noise outside. "Whatever is that?" asked the Stationmaster, in surprise.



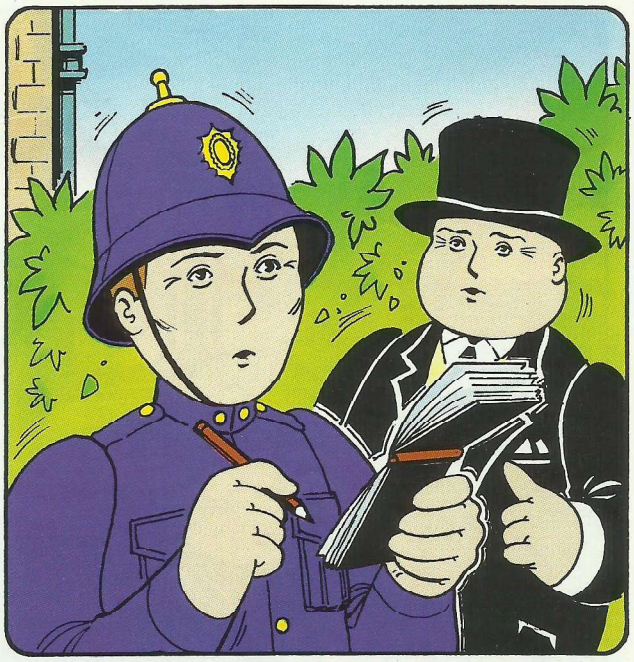
5. The Fat Controller left the brooch on his desk while they went to investigate. "Those black and white birds are making the noise," said the Stationmaster.



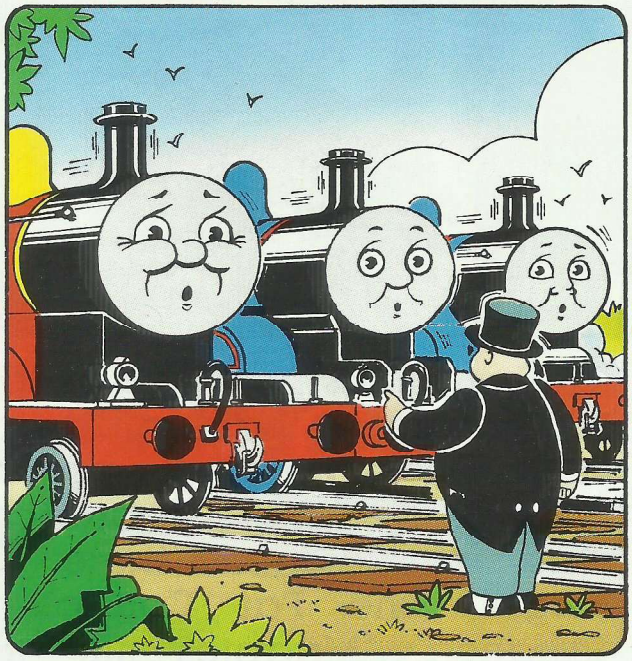
6. "Magpies!" said the Fat Controller. "Their nest must be nearby!" The birds soon flew off and the Fat Controller returned to his desk. But his brooch had disappeared!



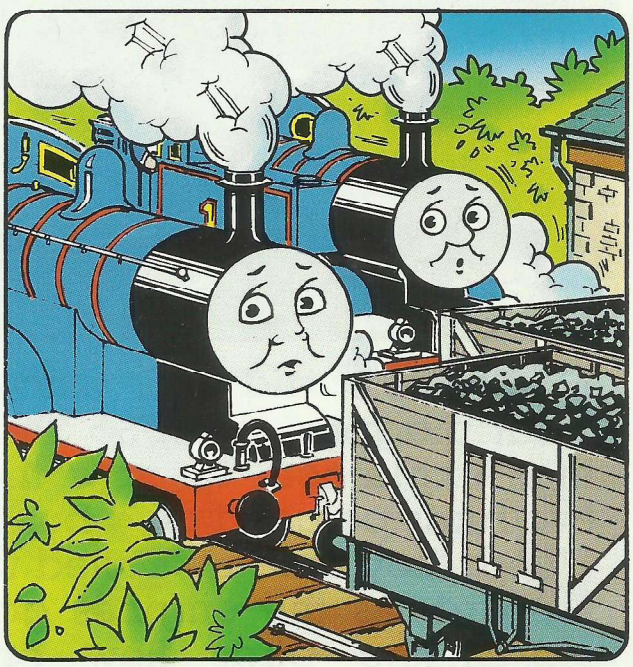
7. The Fat Controller searched his whole office. The brooch had vanished! "My spare whistle went missing yesterday," the Stationmaster told him. "It is most strange!"



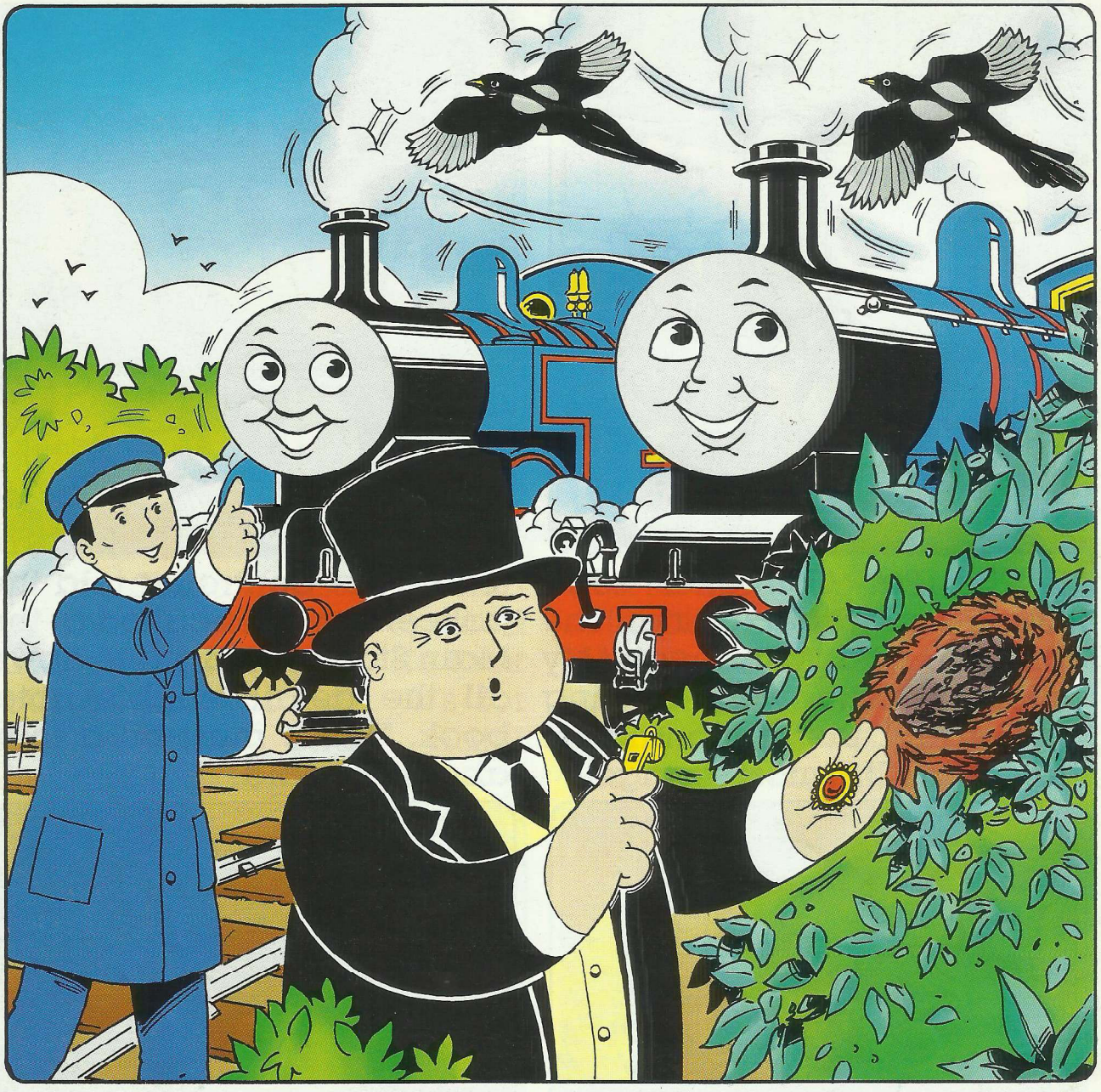
8. The Fat Controller told the policeman, who called at the Main Station and wrote down all the details in his notebook. "There must be a thief about!" he said.



9. After the policeman had left, the Fat Controller warned his engines and their drivers to keep a look out. He asked everyone about the brooch, but no-one had seen it.



10. Later, Edward was helping Thomas to shunt trucks in the yard. Suddenly, the loud chattering noise started again. "The magpies have come back!" said Thomas.



11. Edward did not know what magpies were. So Thomas explained. He saw the two birds perched on a bush. "There they are!" he called to Edward. As the engines got closer, the birds flew off, chattering noisily. Just then, Thomas glimpsed something shiny in the bush. He called for the Fat Controller, who came to have a look.

12. "Gracious me!" he said. "The magpies have made a nest!" There were no eggs in it, but the missing brooch and whistle were there. "I forgot," the Fat Controller laughed. "Magpies like to collect shiny things. One must have flown into my office and taken the brooch!" Everyone was glad that the mystery had been solved!

THE END

In our next issue: Thomas and the carol singers!